Health News Release

For immediate release: November 12, 2014 (14-164)

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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA -- The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Division works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 80 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Look up a healthcare provider license" in the "How Do I?" section of the Department of Health website (doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Asotin County

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Kristina Alicia Brewster** (NC60276348) with unprofessional conduct. Brewster allegedly diverted narcotic pain reliever from patients at a rehabilitation and care center where she worked. She was convicted of attempting to obtain a controlled substance through fraud.

Benton County

In August 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse **Jeffery D. Warner** (RN60271580) requiring him to re-enter a substance abuse monitoring program. Warner violated a previous substance abuse monitoring contract and didn't notify his employer as required that he was subject to a contract.

Clark County

In September 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Kaylee I. Dees**, also known as "Courtney" and as Kaylee Rogers, of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Dees, who has no massage practitioner credential, allegedly advertised massage services online.

In August 2014 the Chiropractic Commission ended probation for chiropractor **Troy M. Dreiling** (CH00003052).

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In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Destini Dawn Shuemaker** (NC60464574) and ordered her to undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program. In 2008 she was convicted of third-degree driving while license suspended and three counts of bail jumping; in 2009 she was convicted of two counts of third-degree theft, third-degree domestic violence malicious mischief, and two counts of violation of order; in 2010 she was convicted of two counts of violation of a protection order, and possession of a legend drug with no prescription; and in 2011 she was again convicted of third-degree theft.

Franklin County

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program ended conditions on the credential of certified nursing assistant **Maria C. Herrera** (NC10082520).

Island County

In September 2014 the Unlicensed Practice Program notified **Vanita C. Gracia-Brown** of its intent to issue a cease-and-desist order. Gracia-Brown has no massage practitioner credential. She allegedly provided a massage to at least one client, and represented herself as a massage practitioner on business cards and on a website.

Jefferson County

In August 2014 the Occupational Therapy Board ended conditions on the credential of occupational therapy assistant **Sandra M. Severin** (OC60002595).

King County

In September 2014 the Pharmacy Commission charged pharmacy technician **Arlene Castro Chapman** (VA00046332) with unprofessional conduct. Chapman allegedly took money from the pharmacy where she worked.

In August 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Patricia Jeanne Yetneberk** (RN00086833, AP30003456) that places her credentials on probation for at least four years. The agreement restricts Yetneberk's ability to prescribe controlled substances. She didn't meet the standard of care in treating multiple pain patients and didn't perform adequate examinations, keep adequate records, or follow-up on patients' comments about their pain medication use. Yetneberk also didn't follow-up on test results and increased dosages without documenting a need, didn't enforce treatment plans or pain management agreements, and didn't refer patients to other practitioners when needed. When one patient said his methadone and oxycodone had been stolen, Yetneberk ordered prescription refills for those drugs and for alprazolam. Two days later the patient died. The cause of death was listed as acute intoxication and combined effects from those drugs.

In August 2014 the Department of Health placed chemical dependency professional **Kelley Kay Woody** (CP00006372) on probation for at least three years. Woody provided gambling treatment

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and mental health counseling to clients, but isn't licensed to provide those services. She offered her professional opinion in a child custody dispute which is outside her scope of practice.

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program ended probation for certified nursing assistant **Abel Winston Puerta** (NC10065147).

Kittitas County

In September 2014 the Osteopathic Board charged osteopathic physician **Gayle Hamann Smith** (OP60189887) with unprofessional conduct. Smith allegedly prescribed controlled substances to a pain patient without either completing or documenting an adequate evaluation. Charges say she continually prescribed methadone without documenting a consultation with a pain management specialist. Smith allegedly authorized early methadone refills without ensuring the patient wasn't abusing methadone, and didn't adequately seek alternative treatment when the patient's pain didn't improve.

Pierce County

In August 2014 the Nursing Commission ended conditions on the credential of registered nurse **Mary A. Johnson** (RN00128013).

Spokane County

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Rachel A. Ryerse** (NC10079239) with unprofessional conduct. Ryerse allegedly stole a wedding ring set from a patient.

Stevens County

In August 2014 the Veterinary Board reinstated the veterinarian credential of **Elizabeth A. Young** (VT60088138), which was suspended in 2014 after she didn't respond to a Department of Health investigator's request for patient records.

Walla Walla County

In August 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Rachel B. Thompson** (NC10039205) with unprofessional conduct. In 2014 Thompson was convicted in Montana of negligent arson.

Whatcom County

In August 2014 the Nursing Commission entered an agreement with licensed practical nurse **Rebecca Jeanne Garcia** (LP00049034) that requires her to re-enter a substance abuse monitoring program. Garcia didn't comply with a previous substance abuse monitoring contract, admitting to relapsing on methamphetamine.

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Yakima County

In September 2014 the Nursing Assistant Program conditionally granted a certified nursing assistant credential to **Gilberto Zuniga** (NC60420196) and placed him on probation for at least one year. Zuniga was convicted of five gross misdemeanors between 2007 and 2012.

In August 2014 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program conditionally granted a chemical dependency professional trainee credential to **Anne Elizabeth Barko** (CO60485133) and placed her on probation. Barko must undergo evaluation for a substance abuse monitoring program, and complete continuing education in professional law and ethics. In 2005 and again in 2007 Barko was convicted in North Carolina of driving while impaired. In 2012 she was convicted in Washington of driving while intoxicated and in 2014 she was convicted of reckless driving.

Out of State

Montana: In August 2014 the Osteopathic Board modified a 2012 agreement with osteopathic physician **James Paul Maganito** (OP60089226) that places restrictions on his ability to practice obstetrics.

Texas: In August 2014 the Nursing Commission reinstated the registered nurse credential of **Karen Y. Schumann** (RN60156559). Her license was suspended in 2013 after the suspension of her Montana license.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

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